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| 09/986,679 | 11/09/2001 | Masae Yanagi | 1560-0371P-SP | 5797 |

2292 7590 07/15/2005

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| EXAMINER |
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AL HASHEMI, SANA A

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2161

DATE MAILED: 07/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/986,679

Applicant(s)

YANAGI, MASAE

Examiner

Sana Al-Hashemi

Art Unit

2161

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 May 2005.
2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 2 and 3 is/are rejected.
7) ☒ Claim(s) 4 is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is issued in response to applicant's amendment filed 5/18/05.
2. Claims 2-4 are pending.
3. Applicant's arguments filed 5/18/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 2, and 3, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. as being anticipated by Yener (US Patent No. 6,772,337).

Regarding Claim 2, Yener discloses a data managing system, comprising:

a client unit which a user uses to request for data; an agent unit which saves encrypted document data and attributes information (Col. 11, lines 7-10, Yener);

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a document managing unit which executes user authentication, access control and document image edition by means of decrypting of encrypted document data (Col. 11, lines 57-67, Yener);

wherein each said unit has a processing function and an interface function which are independent of each other, and are connected via a communication network (Col. 11, lines 44-56, Yener).

Regarding Claim 3, Yener discloses a data managing system, wherein said client unit and the agent unit which saves document data used by a user of said client unit are housed in a user terminal (Col. 13, lines 54-58, Yener¹), and said document managing unit is disposed at a different location which is on-line connected (Col. 13, lines 59-66, Yener).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 4 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: document data have an output image in which a plurality of lines of particulars data are described between a predetermined page header and page footer, a necessary multi-layer hierarchical index file is constructed which contains a lowest-order index file formed by said page header, said page footer and storing location data of said particulars data, a higher-order index file formed by index

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keys, index items and said storing location data of said lowest-order index file by blocking said lowest-order index file, and a further higher-order index file formed by blocking said upper index file, and in response to a data request from said client unit, lower-order index files are sequentially specified from said higher-order index file by means of transactions between said client unit and said document managing unit, whereby data requested by a user are specified and provided.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's argues that the prior art fails to disclose the "data managing unit" "an agent unit that saves encrypted document data" nor "an agent that saves attribute information with encrypted document data."

Examiner disagrees. Referring to Col. 9, lines 31-38, Yener disclose the data management by arranging the data in blocks. And by referring to Col. 10, lines 35-42, Yener discloses the limitations argued above, by utilizing a secret key to encrypt the block since the secret key is used to hide the content of data.

Applicant argues that the Yener fails to disclose "data managing unit which executes user authentication".

Examiner disagrees. Referring to Col. 10, lines 38-39, Yener discloses providing the secret key to the client, which corresponds to accessing the data-managing unit. And referring to Col. 4, lines 29-35, Yener discloses providing authentication to the users.

¹ The Examiner interprets the step of matching REP corresponds to housed since client can not match any

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Applicant argues that the Yener fails to disclose the client and agent units are housed in a user terminal.

Examiner disagrees. The client and agent unit can be stored at the client terminal in the ROM as disclosed in Col. 3-4, lines 65-67, and 1-11.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

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Points of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to: Sana Al-Hashemi whose telephone number is (571) 272-4013. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic, can be reached on (571) 272-4023. Any response to this office action should be mailed to: The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231. Or telefax at phone number (571) 273-8300. For formal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT". Hand-delivered response should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, 6th Floor Receptionist, Arlington, Virginia. 22202.

Sana Al-Hashemi
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100
July 5, 2005



ALFORD KINDRED
PRIMARY EXAMINER